

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Methods and arrangements are provided for use in multiple user computing
3 environments. These methods and arrangements can be configured to allow for a
4 plurality of separate and concurrent desktops and workspaces within the shared
5 computing environment. One method includes creating a separate desktop thread
6 for each user that is authenticated during a logon process, creating a separate
7 desktop associated with each desktop thread, and maintaining a list of desktop
8 threads that are created. In this manner, several users can be logged on
9 simultaneously. In certain implementations, the method further includes
10 establishing a separate user environment associated with each desktop and
11 launching a separate user shell associated with each desktop. The list of desktop
12 threads allows for selective and/or automatic switching from a first desktop to a
13 second desktop without terminating a desktop thread associated with the first
14 desktop. The methods and arrangements are also applicable to remote process
15 logon and switching.

16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25